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► **FOOD** | Kraft singled out; PhillyCowShare?
ADAMS | One-night stand with Trash Humpers ♦ **ARTS** | Waxin' on 'staches



a death in solitary

When convicted killer Matthew Bullock fashioned a noose from a bed sheet that he wasn't supposed to have and secured it around his neck, it wasn't the first time he'd attempted suicide. Autopsy photos showed his forearms covered from wrist to bicep with scars. But a DOC report claimed that Bullock, who was mentally ill and suffered from auditory hallucinations, "did not give any indications that he was going to harm himself."

By **Matt Stroud**

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the naked city



AMILLIONSTORIES

News in the fall of The Bad Court



So, let's say that you're a conservative political movement — after years of record-free **slowing** deficit spending under a conservative president and Congress — **burst** shortly after the inauguration of the country's **first black** president, and, fight deficit spending, and things have been tough lately. Suddenly, everyone's been getting the idea that you're racist.

Perposterous, right? Well, sure, these are all **these** **conservative** **signs** that keep popping up at your rallies. And yeah, there was that time when your members reportedly **yelled**

the N-word at a black congressman during the health care freeze. And the response of one of your highest-profile leaders, Mark Williams, to the NAACP's request that you weed out racist elements — sending a "racist" letter to Alveda Brown in Louisiana that reads, "We Coloreds have taken a vote and decided that we don't cotton to those whole nigger people thing. Freedom means having to work for real. **Thank for ourselves**, and take consequences along with the rewards. That's a part for too much to ask of our Colored People and we don't want that it stop." — probably didn't help, either.

This racism charge has become fairly precious, and you need to counter it before it gets out of control. There's only one thing to do: Pick the chairman "We **are** with America" because you have (he's, of course) and bring them to last Saturday's "Let's Tea" (get it? it's really an Independence

Park, where — and this is very important — your organizers have roared up **every single man-white** right-winger they could find and put them on stage, in front of God and everyone, to prove, once and for all, that the Tea Party and racism are synonymous.

After all, some of your best friends are black. Of the 13 speakers at Tea-Tra, co-hosted by the local independence **Anti Tea Party Association** and explicitly designed to highlight the Tea Party's diversity, eight were black and one was Hispanic. Everyone talked about how the only colors that matter are **red, white and blue**, and how liberals who peddle racism-willies and effusive intervention policies are the true bigots, and they should really **give us our country back**.

Tea-Tra was about more than just speakers, though. You may not know this, but Tea Partiers (note: This is the preferred term, as "tea bangers" has an unimproved sexual connotation, so in, the **slipping of a man's testicles into his partner's mouth**) love a top bag. Indeed, if you haven't seen a group of slightly older, ever so weighty Tea Partiers rise out of their folding chairs with their hands up as conservative white-boy rap duo **Hi-Collar** burst out the lyrics as "no taxation without representation" or "U.S.A., everybody get ready. **Think is sweeping the nation**, will you ever really lived, honey?"

In attendance were roughly **500 non-Americans** — organizers predicted it'd be three times that number — many carrying **Golden Rule** signs (bearing such delightful and well-known phrases as "Obamacare Rites" and "Think kids is 'THIT'")

Of course, about 25 were non-Caucasian. But really, who's ever bag? Color is an overreaction here. They say so themselves.

(Of course, they did invite **Andrew Breitbart** — a now-banned blogger who took after black Department of Agriculture employee **Shirley Sherrod** on unsubstantiated racism charges a few weeks ago — to be a keynote speaker.)

Also did you know that Tea Partiers are **no trigger** colorblind? Not only do they not see black men, women, and people and girls, too? That's right. **They love the guys** — so long, that is, as the guys pass on equal rights. For instance, **Kevin Grossman** and **Mark Hensley** got lots of attention carrying "Donald Gay Conservative" signs. They feel not prejudiced at all by the Tea Party's conservative leanings.

And why would they? **They turn opposite gay marriage**, they don't feel they need it. "I don't know what rights I don't have as a gay citizen," Grossman tells us.

Not to pick onto or anything, but what about the **1,136 benefits, rights and privileges** granted to straight couples that, because of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, gays and lesbians can't claim? Things like **Social Security and Medicare benefits**? Or you know, tax-free inheritance? Just saying.

... CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



soapboxer

Jeffrey C. Miller tells you what to think

WAKE UP

> SOMETIMES, THE TRICK is asking the right question. Credit where credit is due today *Business of the Atlantic Journal* Constitution, who on July 27 wrote that on the paper's blog:

"Let us see if I've got this straight. Here we are in the unfolding ruins of an economy recently wrecked by Wall Street greed, in a country where for 20 years almost all income growth has been concentrated among the richest 1 percent of Americans... Meanwhile, the Republican Party defends massive tax breaks for the wealthy while blocking out to the unemployed rights battles against regulations designed to protect a sector of the Wall Street machine, and does all that while proclaiming itself to be the party of the little people. Do I have that right?"

Unfortunately, yes. And if the poll is correct, that Party of the Little You Can't stand to be reminded for its outrageousness and corporate sins made with bipartisan greed in November, so its politicians rail against the deficits they created and the high unemployment numbers that ultimately prevent its Democrats from coming winning.

All the while, they deny the quantitatively obvious: The stimulus and other efforts to avert economic collapse last year worked. Last week, for instance, the *New York Times* reported that a popular Princeton professor and the chief economist at Moody's Analytics

that addition is mounting volume of evidence that the Keynesians were right. Without government intervention, the analysts estimated, the nation's GDP would be about 5.5 percent lower than it is. That would have meant the loss of an additional 5.5 million jobs, on top of the 6 million already lost to the Great Recession.

"[T]here is little doubt that in total, the policy response was highly effective," the authors wrote.

Though politically unpopular, the policies of the Democratic Congress and Bush and Obama administrations in late 2008 and early 2009 proved an anticlimax. That the economy is still struggling doesn't prove otherwise, instead, it highlights that, if anything, we should have gone bigger. Had the past recessions it worked.

If the neoconservative Republicans had had their way we'd be stuck in 2002.

(And yet, the Republicans and their Tea Party acolytes think they deserve another shot at power. Pardon me while I roll my eyes.)

That isn't to say that Barack Obama and his Democratic allies are flawless. They're disappointed on a great many issues. Wall Street reform and the health care bill were watered down, the stimulus change legislation never got off the ground, progress has been frustratingly incremental on gay rights. Afghanistan is still a mess. Guantanamo Bay is still open, and so on. On the toughest fights, there's a good case to be made that the president hasn't shown enough backbone. (On the other hand, as with all of us, he can be had at the feet of an unimpeachable source that enables obnoxious by requiring 60 votes to do anything.)

But the Democrats' case that the bill needed to merely pointing out the GOP's increasingly toxic relationship with reality, and that the fact that the party of Lincoln has devolved into a Reagan-worshipping self-parody. The fact is, the White House and the 111th Congress

(the naked city)

can at least be impressive in a rescue in anything that side of the Lyndon Johnson Great Society, imperfect though it may be. The stimulus, health care reform, Wall Street regulations, tougher environmental protections and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act are all landmark achievements.

The grade was ambitious, even if the execution wasn't always so.

Still, election tend to be decided on the state of the economy, which, needless to say, isn't good. This simple rule helped Barack Obama in 2008; it will hurt him in 2010. To make matters worse, the progressive base is demanding, like other other-worldly about what should've been a real effort to recognize the effort and acknowledge progress this country has made over the last 20 years.

Wake the fuck up, people. This is real life, and elections are how elections flow, you didn't get everything you wanted, but living in a fantasy land of ideological purity will get you Speaker John Boehner. At the end of the day, the money is simple: The voters win, and we're gone.

One that, and represent the word. (Jeffrey C. Miller is a frequent contributor to the New York Times Magazine.)

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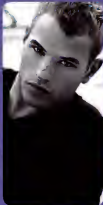
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a death in solitary

Hell is the hole in a prison near Wilkes-Barre. By Matt Stroud

WHEN MATTHEW BULLOCK

a 30-year-old convicted killer (pictured) awoke from a bed sheet that he wasn't supposed to have, secured it around his neck, had it to then stand bare in the high window of his solitary confinement cell, then sat down, hard as an effort to break his neck and suffocate himself. It wasn't the first time he'd attempted suicide. In fact, according to a civil lawsuit filed in November 2006 by Bullock's parents against officials at the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) and officials and state-contracted health-care providers at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCI Dallas)—where Bullock's 15-year body was found hanging on Aug. 24, 2009—Bullock, who had a long history of mental illness, psychotic episodes and solitary confinement, had tried to kill himself at least 50 documented times in the decade before his 2005 incarceration, and several more times since. Autopsy photos taken after Bullock's suicide showed that his femurs were covered from wrist to knee with scars, apparently self-inflicted by razor and knife. One scar on his right knee went appeared to be recent, with scars only superficially healed

The scars were both horizontal and vertical. Wounds were assessed and treated while state-interned and mangled. The number of suicide cuts to both arms was too high to count.

Yet Richard Elders, DOC's director of the Bureau of Health Care Services, wrote in a Sept. 8 report obtained by Bullock's parents' attorneys "Offender Bullock did not give any indication that he was going to harm himself."

—There was no indication noted by staff members who regularly interacted with Offender Bullock that he was depressed and would take his own life."

Bullock's parents say that's simply not true. In their lawsuit, they claim that not only had Bullock tried to kill himself while in custody on multiple occasions, but their son also had repeatedly told SCI Dallas' correctional officers (COs) about his suicidal inclinations. The COs didn't report him, according to the lawsuit and written statements provided by a few inmates. They located him — and actually intervened — to take his own life.

When he told COs of his suicidal tendencies, the lawsuit continues, prison officials moved him from a solitary cell that was within view of an observation camera to one that wasn't. Then, the lawsuit alleges, someone slipped him "untransmitted" which are commonly used to control or attempt suicide. —a bed sheet, which medical inmates in "the hole" are not supposed to have —and COs "incited [Bullock] to kill himself."

After that, family attorney Shelley Cantor says, Bullock was left alone for hours, though DOC policy mandates that

inmates in solitary be checked on every 30 minutes.

During that time, Matthew Bullock made good on his death wish.

The Bullocks' lawsuit not only raises the possibility that SCI Dallas COs played a role in Bullock's suicide. It also paints the picture of a prison system that is woefully ill-equipped for handling the mentally ill, and implies that, at least in Bullock's case, it relied on a horrific solitary confinement unit guarded by abusive COs to sequester the inmate.

Additionally, according to the lawsuit, DOC health-care contractors MHM Services Inc. and PHS Correctional Healthcare had "pathetic or noxious (mis)handling" providing the least amount of medical care possible to SCI Dallas inmates so that MHM and/or PHS could reap the largest possible profit. "During the pending litigation, PHS and MHM decided to comment on the allegations MHM vice president and general counsel Edwin Hightower points out that because MHM's contract with DOC to provide inmates with mental health care is based on services provided, there's no financial incentive to cut corners."

After the deaths of Bullock's multipotential medication was decreased to dangerous levels, the suit says, Bullock attempted suicide inside SCI Dallas' solitary confinement unit. (Hightower could not comment on the specifics of Bullock's case, other than to say that MHM's psychiatric services are not as good as they deem medically necessary.) Bullock was found dead and water, and

Continued on page 16

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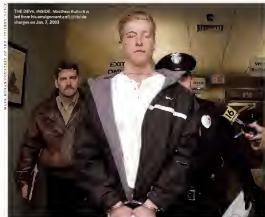
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The Drive, movie: Matthew Bullock is led from his assignment of 161/171/181 charges on Jan. 7, 2003.

convinced into a cell with "24-hour light and no personal ventilation," the lowest class.

These claims of mistreatment mirror those in a report released this spring by a branch of the Human Rights Coalition (HRC) called FedUp!, a left-leaning rights organization headquartered in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Titled "Institutionalized Cruelty: Torture at SCI Dallas and in Prison Throughout Pennsylvania," the report alleges that CDC at SCI Dallas physically abuses, sexually and verbally harasses all "black, white, and other rights."

Copied mostly from letters inmates write to HRC, the report claims that CDC at SCI Dallas' solitary confinement unit — also known as the Restricted Housing Unit, or RHU — "sometimes encourages prisoners to commit suicide, and that prison medical staffers regularly deny inmates medications, surgery, hospitalization and other necessary care. It calls mental health care inside SCI Dallas 'substandard,'" and says the system provides "a protest for holding prisoners in prolonged, continuous indefinite solitary confinement."

But Grate, an investigator with HRC, says SCI Dallas

emphasizes a broken system. "The DOC is constructed to implement abuse from the top down," he says. "Bullock's case is just one example of that abuse."

SHUT HER UP

Matthew Bullock was arrested On Jan. 1, 2003, he committed the crime that would land him in prison for the rest of his life: the framed strangulation murder of his girlfriend, Lisa Hargrove, and the later she carried on her words. By the time Bullock turned himself in to police, Hargrove's body had been decomposing at the couple's Willow-Kerry-area apartment closet for nearly a week. Bullock told the cops that he'd blocked out and didn't remember strangling Hargrove.

Prior to 2003, his criminal record was fairly mundane: a burglary charge at 16, a charge of possessing stolen property two years later, an attempted escape from the Luzerne County Correctional Facility two years after that. There was little indication that he would turn into a killer. But there was also little doubt that he was troubled.

At his murder trial, a defense psychiatrist testified that Hargrove's murder was set off by intense screaming not only from Bullock's severe mental illness, but also from more than a decade of drug abuse and the sexual abuse he suffered as a 5-year-old at the hands of his stepfather and his stepfather's girlfriend. The psychiatrist testified that they forced Bullock to drink up like a goliath, nicknamed him and turned him into a sexual plaything.

After these allegations became public, Bullock's stepbrother, Brock Bullock, released a statement calling the allegations "misleading and untrue on all counts."

But Grate, a civil rights attorney for the Spiller Law Firm who represented Bullock at trial and a representing Bullock's family in its civil suit, believes them. That summer, she says, isolated Bullock his entire life. He began using drugs at 13, and his family began to notice wild mood swings. He attempted suicide. At 18, his family committed him to a mental institution. Over the next decade, he entered to patient psychiatric hospitalization and on-patient drug and alcohol rehabilitation more than 20 times. He was diagnosed with impulse control disorder, major depressive disorder, dysthymic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, panic disorder with agoraphobia, bipolar disorder, intermittent explosive disorder, antisocial personality disorder and traits of borderline personality disorder, as well as alcohol abuse and poly-substance dependence, according to the Bullock's lawyer. He also struggled with memory problems and psychotic episodes — particularly under stress.

Then, Grate says, he would hear voices that told him, Go to hell. Go kill yourself.

"They were kind of like command hallucinations," she says. "And then, almost every time that he would hear these voices, the next thing that would happen was a suicide attempt or a drug overdose."

Bullock struggled on various antipsychotic medications. He held down jobs at Wal-Mart, landscaping companies and in fact on telemarketing agency. But like many on antipsychotic medications, he found no relief, and opted to self-medicate with alcohol, cocaine and heroin. Eventually Grate says, he took up with Lisa Hargrove, a fellow inmate. Hargrove marked a new beginning for Bullock. Though he would later learn, he got close when they discovered in June 2002 that the was pregnant. Hargrove was still struggling with addiction, Grate says, but Bullock confided in her. Hargrove was the first non-professional person — non-counselor, non-psychiatrist, non-psychologist — Bullock told about the sexual abuse he reportedly suffered when he was 6.

On New Year's Eve 2002, Bullock and Hargrove went to a party where there was an ample supply of cocaine and booze. They both indulged. Early the next morning, Grate says, Hargrove began making a mess. Bullock asked her to slow down, but she didn't. They went to another party that night — where there was more booze

BULLOCK HEARD VOICES: "GO TO HELL. GO KILL YOURSELF."

Hargrove bought some nikes before they left. Back at their apartment, she was still at it — smoking lines, smoking weed. Rollack started an on-line Census says “This is it. I can’t believe you’re still using cocaine. It’s like hours now. What the hell do you think you’re doing?”

After a snuffle, Cantino says, Hargrove color-coded "Oh, what are you, the voice of the moral majority?" You're gonna yell at me for using women? Why do you thank you are? I know who you are. You're a 5-year-old little boy who likes to get dressed up like a little girl! You like to take it to the next!"

And that, Cantino says, is when the voice in Bullock's head returned. *She knew she's right. She's her age*

He thanked her Bullock later described the scene to his lawyer: "She's still struggling. She's still moving. She's still yelling at me, she's still beating me, she's still talking. The nurses are still telling me these things."

Bullock taped Hargrave's arms. He taped her legs. He taped her mouth shut. And he didn't just tape her mouth shut once; he used the remainder of the duct tape roll and wrapped it around her head more than 30 times. Bullock claimed he had blacked out, at first, the defense psychiatrist said Bullock had entered a state of psychosis.

Bullock stuffed Hargrave's body in the bedroom closet and went to sleep.

■ "THE TORTURE CELL"

Of course, one version of events is emphasized. The only two people who were there are no longer alive. But the judge and jury seemed to have some sympathy for Bullock's condition. After hearing Bullock's history at trial, a Louisiana County jury found him "guilty but mentally ill" of third-degree murder in Hargrove's death. (The accompanying local homicide newscast was the first in Louisiana County and one of few in Pennsylvania following the 1997 Crime Against the Unborn Act.) On Nov. 17, 2003, Common Pleas Judge Joseph Angello sentenced Bullock to 20 to 60 years in prison, with the caveat that he "be transferred to a secure mental health facility for the needed medical treatment."

BGC would not discuss Padilla's transfers or mental health treatment for this story, Cantara says he was moved from the Lutterne County Correctional Facility — where he was treated with "good medications for the first time" — to SCI Costa Rica. He recently thought of suicide with SCI

Geastland, as one of the most violent and raucous prisons in the state. SCI Camp Hill is part holding pen, part melting pot. It's generally where prisoners go post-conviction, while DOC figures out where to place them.

Of Pennsylvania's 26-state prisons, several contain special mental units for those with mental or physical health care needs, but only one prison is officially designated as a mental health facility: SCI Wyomant. According to DOC's website, Wyomant houses "mentally disabled male inmates who require ongoing psychological care and treatment." As of June 26, SCI Wyomant was one of only five state prisons and one county jail.

Despite the judge's orders that Bullock be placed in a secure mental health facility, Bullock wasn't transferred to SCI Waynesport. Instead, he stayed at SCI Hill until sometime in 2004, when he was sent to SCI Huntington.

From there, he was transferred to Waynesport, where he stayed until early 2005. But then he was sent back to Huntington for more than two years.

About that time, Cantini says, DDC stopped providing Bullock with Seroquel, an expensive antipsychotic medication used to treat schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. (Citing pending litigation, DDC officials declined to address that claim.)

Continu believes Bullock was transferred from prison to prison because of his multiple incidents of terrorism.

"The pattern that seems to have developed was that they would put him in to general population somewhere, and when he would start to decompensate, they would transfer him to a place that has a special needs unit or a mental health unit," she says. "He would start to show signs of improvement, they would put him back in general population, and the cycle would continue."

Between 2007 and 2009, Centenary, Balllock was transferred to at least five different prisons within DOC. During this time, while in DOC's health practitioners would not provide Balllock with Retroquel even when he showed medical history, which he did frequently. Balllock attempted suicide as many as five times during this span.

Last year, after Bullock's final stay in a DCC mental health facility he received news that he would be transferred to SCI Dallas. This prospect frightened him. According to his parents' lawsuit, Bullock told prison officials that one of the CDCs at SCI Dallas was a relative of Lee Harvey Oswald, his victim.

BOS Dallas officials were aware that one of the COs guarding inmates in the prison's general population was related to Hargraves, Contino says, and at Bullock's request, they twice asked BOS to transfer Bullock.

According to DOC deputy press secretary Sue Benninger, prison superintendents have absolute discretion to reject prisoner transfer applications before passing them along to DOC. That Michael Karpovich, SCI Dallas' then-superintendent, sent Padlock's two inmate requests to DOC leaves no indication that he felt Padlock

concern was at least somewhat legitimate.

However, Contino says, citing DDC Office of Professional Responsibility records she obtained in discovery—but declined to release to City Paper—in an RCI Dallas affiliate's first attempt to transfer Buellick, they forgot to include the name of the CO allegedly related to Harpene, as DDC declined the transfer. The second request was turned down, due to Buellick's "misbehavior."

Glenn has since not stepped in the law suit, his relationship with Hargrove could not be independently verified and he could not be reached for comment by press time. City Paper is not identifying that CO 2

After Bullock requested the transfer, Cantan says, SCI Dallas officials moved him into administrative custody at the prison's RBU while DOC processed his petitions.

Here, Crutain says, Bullock started beating roses again. He stretched his wrist with a single hee-and— which, Crutain says, prompted DOC to dally for several intense seconds. SOJ Dallas officials then placed Bullock in disciplinary custody—an act Crutain calls the "surrender act," which she says was sufficed with 24-hour lighting and no-sentences except a "big desk and a bank of concrete-toe-ops." Crutain calls this treatment a "punishment" based on Bullock for some arbitrary offense.

■ "TREATED LIKE ANIMALS"

"Institutionalized Cruelty," the Human Rights Foundation's 93-page report released this spring, details numerous allegations of inhuman, unsafe and vicious treatment inside SCI Dallas' EDU at the hands of COs; the report describes in some of the most abusive in the system.

Walterio Malabanda, of Philadelphia, is serving five to 10 years in ICL Dallas for drug-dealing charges he incurred in 2003. Last September, he wrote to IHRC to protest the conditions inside solitary confinement, which, he said, "has become a chamber of trial, not constant punishment, a torture camp." The hole resembles "a little ranch where people are tortured... there is no sunlight in society without a chance in the world that he was treated like anyone."

Wrote another HHS memo, who requested accountability in fear of retaliation by SCI Dallas COs. The conditions are horrible. The cell was disgusting filthy when I first entered it. There were stains on the walls and the bunk that looked like feces and dried blood. Also, the cells have no windows and very minimal air circulation. (Shouldn't that should prevent air from flowing in cells)

He continued, "We are let out for one hour a day, Monday through Friday, for recreation which consists of being walked and led by a dog loosely attached to the collar to an outdoor area where there are a whole bunch of cages similar in size to our cell. We are played one person per cage and left out there with nothing for one hour. That is when

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"IF THEY ACT LIKE GROWN MEN, WE TREAT THEM LIKE GROWN MEN."

some inmates struggle with inmates filled with fumes, urine and other bodily fluids and drag it on each other.

"Some inmates actually urinate, squirt down and defecate on their hand and throw it like that. We also come out [there] twice a week for a shower, which lasts anywhere from 5 to 10 minutes usually. Occasionally I've been left locked in the shower stall for close to an hour or more, obviously forgotten about. That is another area where inmates can throw feces, etc., because they put their wastes per shower stall, next to which other only separated by a fence-like partition. Other than special circumstances, these are the only times we come out of our cells."

This inmate told HRC that he has no consistent hearing on desks, beds and while from inmates in the RHU — no consistent language of force. He hears loud sounds he can't identify, yelling from COs, and the screams of men shouting at men from inside their cells. "Thankfully," he wrote, "I've never had an impulse to hurt myself or at least a serious one. I should say this place definitely makes you think about it though."

SCI Dallas Deputy Superintendent Vincent Mosney shares these complaints. The stigma, he notes, is equally insidious, and doesn't come from the most trustworthy of sources. "Not only do [these] prisoners have a reason to lie," he says, "but we look into every grievance filed by every prisoner, and if it's a problem with an officer or an inmate or a part of the prison itself, we fix it."

"WAREHOUSED"

The debate over the propriety of solitary confinement is nothing new — it was even the focus of a recent *Los Angeles Times* editorial. That episode. Many psychologists agree, at Craig Haney of the University of California at Santa Cruz did for *Wired* in April 2006. (Not "The same people, the actual experience of isolation is so painful that it generates an anxiety or panic reaction. People lose their ability to control themselves. They become uncontrollably and incessantly and permanently depressed in the face of this kind of treatment. Other become angry and unable to control these impulses.")

A US military study referenced in a *New Yorker* piece last May found that, "of almost a hundred and fifty naval inmates who returned from imprisonment in Vietnam" — many of whom were tortured for years — most "report-

ed that they found some isolation to be as torturous and agonizing as any physical abuse they suffered."

John Leland, a law professor at the University of Pittsburgh who has argued in federal court against prolonged solitary confinement, wrote in an article on the subject for the *University of Pennsylvania's Journal of Constitutional Law* in 2006: "One important aspect of human existence is social contact with others; such contact does contribute to a basic human need."

Leland argues that solitary confinement is no place for the mentally ill. "Many of the people that [are sent] confined to solitary are there because they have trouble conforming to general populations," he says in an interview. "And they have trouble conforming because they're mentally ill. And so when they're basically being warehoused in these solitary confinement facilities."

The theory in the United States, he continues, "is that you're supposed to take everything you can from a prisoner — make his life miserable — so that he'll want to get back into general population. But for mentally ill people, the problem is not that they don't want to conform, but they can't. Because they're mentally ill."

But what if a prison system happened to do with someone like Matthew Bullock?

"They're supposed to give them treatment," Leland says. "But that's antithetical to the philosophy most people have about prisons — which is that they should treat them people harshly."

"SAFE AND ORDERLY"

SCI Dallas once stops a grant left in the suburbs of Dallas. Bullock, 130 miles north-northeast of Philadelphia, joins Jerome Welch to sit at a long, empty table. He took over after Bullock's death. Kipoticus was promoted as November 2006 to regional deputy secretary of DOW. He declared to someone for that story: "Our mission is to run that place like a small city." Welch says: "It's got a cafeteria, workers, schools, places where inmates can worship and congregate. Our goal is to keep them safe and orderly."

SCI Dallas houses about 1,140 inmates, some 400 of whom are serving life without the possibility of parole. It has 119 beds in its RHU, but not all of them are filled, Welch says. This is in contrast to the rest of the facility. SCI Dallas, which was built to house 1,700 inmates, is overcrowded.

Mosney, SCI Dallas' deputy superintendent, says prisoners enter RHU primarily for their own protection, or if "they are a significant security risk" — either because they've attempted to escape or because they assaulted another inmate or a CO, or if prisoners have information about someone who has done something wrong.

The prison's rules call for a 15-day stay in RHU for disciplinary cases, which can be renewed after 15 days at the discretion of prison officials. That's in RHU for protection or



other administrative reasons can stay there indefinitely.

SCI Dallas officials reject RHU's allegations of abuse made by the RHU. "We know what's going on on our prison," Welch says. "We take every allegation seriously. But we keep our investigations to home for security reasons, and because it's in our policy that we're allowed to keep those investigations internal."

That means the complaints prisoners file against their COs aren't public record. Moreover, while Mosney says the DOC spokeswoman, says the department is managing the allegations at HRC's report — so it does with all allegations of abuse, no matter the source, she says — it also means that neither DOC nor SCI Dallas have made public the results of whatever inquiries were conducted.

Asked about the claim in the *Bullock* lawsuit that Bullock was moved from a cell in RHU that had a rules annex in it to one without a annex shortly before he committed suicide, Welch says the RHU has only one cell with a annex. Mosney adds that "there was a very good reason why Bullock was moved into a cell not immediately a annex, but he would not say what it was. Beyond that, the SCI Dallas officials declined to answer any more questions about Bullock's death, citing the ongoing litigation."

"It's very easy to pick up on the bad things," Welch says, "but the truth of the matter is that we run this prison as effectively as we can, and I think we do that job very well."

"IT FOLLOWS ME"

A former inmate of SCI Dallas, Tom — not his real name — served less than a decade in various state prisons in

sexual assault charges until his release a few years ago. He was in SCI Dallas' EHU for several weeks in the late 1990s, while awaiting a court hearing.

After reading about Hallack's case last year, Tim contacted Clinton to say he had experienced similar abuse. Clinton, in turn, made Tim available to be interviewed for this story. His stint in minimum-security custody began on the EHU's top tier, where he says he felt safe. But almost immediately, he was moved down tiers to a different section of the EHU — where a friend of his victim was working, he says. He believes SCI Dallas officials wanted to place him in harm's way. They intentionally duped his accusation, Tim says: the outgoing three weeks were some of the worst of his life. The COs constantly told him to kill himself, he says. They peered in his door whenever they went past, searched his room frequently and refused to feed him, and when they did feed him, he says, they served his food with salt — literally food putter — so he ingested. "I've been in military a few times," he says. "And being in military is a terrible thing. But at Dallas, it was worse. I did not sleep. I did not eat. I will have nightmares about it forever."

At the same time, Tim says much of the problem with prisoner abuse — and the continued use of solitary confinement — lies with the inmates themselves. Some prisoners file "futileious grievances and lawsuits, tying up the

courts and hearing boards, preventing legitimate issues from being addressed."

But even then, he says, valid complaints likely wouldn't go anywhere at Dallas. "COs have way too much power. And in some places, you get COs who just go to work their eight hours. But at Dallas, it's like a brotherhood. They combine forces. And if they want to stop you from saying something — or if they want you dead or gone — they will kill you, they will."

Prison officials did not allow SCI Dallas COs to speak on the record about Hallack's case. However, one CO who works in the solitary confinement unit of one other state prison — who asked that neither his name nor the prison at which he works be revealed — says he thinks Tim's story about being served food is "total bullshit."

The next oft-told, though, he believes "if an inmate is acting like an ass by locking their door or screaming for no reason or threatening COs — or acting like whining children — then we have every right to turn them on food, refuse to give them their bowl of porridge and treat them like children. If they act like grown men, then we'll treat them like grown men."

■ "OUT OF SIGHT"

If he under how many prisoners at SCI Dallas, or at any other state prison, are mentally ill, a study released in

July by the International Association for Correctional and Forensic Psychology that looked at New York City's Rikers Island, Chicago's Cook County Jail and the Los Angeles County Jail determined that 15 percent of each of these institutions' populations was mentally ill. Other studies put the percentage much higher, as much as 56 percent or more. But if you assume that 15 percent of SCI Dallas inmates are mentally ill, that's at least 360 inmates, who are treated by the four psychologists and one psychiatrist the prison usually has available on duty, Walsh says. Many of these inmates, because of these disruptive behaviors, are bound to wind up in the hole.

Under any circumstances, says Lohel, the Princeton law professor, that's not where they should be. There seems to be the abuse there as well as about SCI Dallas' EHU are accurate.

Nonetheless, he acknowledges, "People don't really want to hear about what's going on in prisons. We need to keep prisoners out of sight and out of mind. And as legislators, the elite, Congress, they just don't really want to hear about prisoners unless one has been murdered or something like that. But if a prisoner's locked up for 18 years, I don't think anyone really wants to hear about how their mental health is being left to rot by the prison system."

Walsh, strongly enough, offers a somewhat reassuring thought: He began his career working for the state in

111 continued on page 10

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"I understand the importance of mental health," he says. "But I realized very early on in my career that it was a shrinking field and that the Department of Corrections is always growing, always getting bigger. I knew there were opportunities for advancement here. You just don't have that when you're working on mental health care."

An unidentified source made reference to Bullock's death in his letters to FNU: "I am back one inmate-committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell while I've been in this FNU". The jail swept that incident under the rug and put a new inmate in that cell the very next day.

Isaac Sanchez, 34, serving up to seven years for charges related to a York burglary in late 2006, wrote that COs

David Sierra, 30, who's serving time at SCI Dallas for a few of 1997 LeComme County charges including multiple counts of arson, robbery and aggravated assault, wrote that CDE called "Bullock a child molester and rapist," and "outgassed Bullock for days, telling him to kill himself," Sierra wrote. "That was an ongoing process until Bullock did what they forced him to do."

According to DOC statistics, 13 prisoners died at SCI Dallas in 2000. Aside from Bullock's suicide, 11 deaths were listed as "natural," another was considered "undetermined."

The HRC report doesn't blame any one person for Bullock's death; instead, it holds the system responsible. The report says, COs' physical stress, combined with

No small debt has been set for the Bullheads' lawsuit, and DOC has yet to file the answer to their complaint. But when all is said and done, Bob Greta of HRC hopes the case sheds some light on how DOC operates.

The writer in one word "The death of Matthew Bullock and the routine torture and abuse of prisoners in solitary confinement all should open people's eyes to the reality that the prison system is anything but a correctional system. [DDCI] needs to be completely overhauled."

4 The *University Institute of Saint Paul University* — a Pittsburgh-based *university of journalism* organization that investigated claims of sexualized harassment and other criminal justice issues in Pennsylvania — supported the reporting for the story. About 10 years ago, he was a reporter there. He is now a research and analysis/communications editor. He is also a member of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.



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SUCH GREAT HEIGHTS



► **DONALD WINSLOW** DIDN'T plan on being a crime novelist. Sort of odd funny that *The Wolves of Fairmount Park* (June 22) carries the subtitle *thriller*, emboldening it three units over: "A Crime Novel." Earlier this year, in an interview with former CP Editor-in-Chief Susan Swetys, Winslow identified that the genre label stuck up on him with his first novel. "When I wrote *Dope Deal* I thought I was writing a literary novel with crime to it," he'd said. "But my agent was like, 'You wrote a novel called *Dope Deal*?'"

Winslow's second book shows he's comforted with the label: It goes with a story he's upped a quick shuffle of perspectives, and where *Dope Deal* was angled itself into a juicy character study, *Wolves* displays the mastery of a tight plot and careful construction.

It's also a much better novel. This is, in part, because Winslow embraces the mechanics of his genre, but more importantly he's figured out how to connect the surface action and atmosphere — which has little to do with subject matter and everything to do with the ability to invite a world and invite the reader inside it. *Wolves'* world is a metropolitan Philadelphia that oozes from a skyline postcard but acquires all of neighborhood from which you can see the skyline. Philadelphia, Kensington Spring Garden, Ontario, a jargon-mathematical detective, although the brogue of the city as he tries to figure out his neighbor's story. Winslow's detailed street-level view takes his proudly struggling, from strange landmarks like the Divine Lanes to an unnamed but very present Port Richmond Books. It's a city that's rugged around the edges, but clearly identifiable here.

Readers of course, aren't the Phragmites make a novel great. Identify them. On the surface Adam Langer's *The Wolves of Philadelphia* (Spring 4, June 12) is a light-hearted best-seller played by the rules of a confidence game that sees the fence between realism and art and fiction. In

Burt's Face #2,
Scott Chesse, acrylic
on panel, 2002



[First Friday News]

'STACHE FROM THE PAST

Visual artist Scott Chesse hops on the handlebars to ride a trend to its pre-ironic roots
By Carolyn Hucknaby

Like Samuel Beckett and W.G. Sebald, the manichee has risen triumphantly, inexplicably, from the dead. It's out there right now, sporting handle-bar style from bike messengers' upper lips. It's represented on T-shirts and tea towels sold for cheap on eBay; it's the source of criticism at those parties and facial-hair competitions. But New York-based artist Scott Chesse is not simply capitalizing on an overexposed trend with "Mustache Man." The traveling exhibit, which makes its debut Friday at Old City production studio/gallery space Striped Ray, is inspired by a time when manichees evoked romance, not hipster reappropriation. Accompanying his manichee dot-point maps of quintessential 'vintage-man' Burt Reynolds is a three-dimensional, 1970s-era "beard man" set against which comes complete with lounge chair, vintage stereo equipment and bar paraphernalia — a setup designed to remind us of old-school masculinity, at the very least, our dads when we were young. We caught up with Chesse via e-mail to get to the bottom of the upper-lip phenomenon.

City Paper: You've painstakingly dot-pointed Burt Reynolds what seems like dozens of times. Why focus on him and the '70s?

Chesse: As opposed to, say, Tom Selleck and the '80s?

Chesse: First, I wanted to work with a celebrity image that hadn't already been played out in a Chuck Norris sort of way. I'd like my artwork to connect with people as art, not as kitsch. I feel the legacy of Burt Reynolds' cinema is a big reason why his likeness is so universally recognized, as he seemed to be a good choice for an image that would grab a large audience — an audience that often wonders, "Why is he painting Burt Reynolds so much?" Second is a more personal connection. I grew to put it bluntly, Burt reminds me of what my dad looked like when I was a kid. It was born in '74. This nostalgia connects with me, pushed me to revisit and reimagine childhood memories, and that process has been the driving force behind the installation aspect of "Mustache Man."

"The look on Burt's face exemplifies an overly confident machismo."

CP: Is this collection — and its accompanying basement bar — a comment on stereotypical masculinity, or is it just a bearded-god moment frozen in time?

Chesse: Absolutely there is a commentary on masculinity, both past and present. To me, the look on Burt's face exemplifies an overly confident machismo circa late '60s and early '80s, a time when there was an accepted percentage of observation much higher than today. His manichee is a connection between then and now, a fashion statement that has recently manifested after a long

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS

The full text of this article will be available on the Transboundary Electronic Journal of the Eastern Board of the International Association for Agricultural Resource Management (IAARM) at its website (www.iaarm.org) 5/20/00

10. *Worcester v. City of Worcester, Massachusetts* (roughly bounded by Worcester County, Oak Street, Walnut Street, and 21st Street). The parcel was roughly bounded by the City of Worcester District and the Canton City Water Commission in Worcester, Massachusetts County.

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► americana



+ WESTWARD HO!

There's always been a genuine-size difference between how the West was and how we told ourselves we won it. Of course, like any good mythology, the epic romance of the frontier was largely painted at a safe remove — note that its most famous call to arms, to "go West," was made by Horace Greeley while comfortably ensconced in his New York office. But to the Hornsback's new exhibit makes clear, those who actually made the arduous trek were so responsible for its invention as those who spun exaggerated yarns about it in these novels. "The American West was an idea as much as a place," says Karen Schoenwald, who co-curated with Katherine Hays — an idea embodied in those literary paperbacks with covers depicting lone figures towering over flatland but strong-armed in white rooms, or buff to the bone in a combination of legend and reality proudly brandishing a scalp.

—Graham Bowley

Through May 28, *E.M. Hornsback: Western and Eastern, 1808-2010* Dictionary House, 2187 72D 1800, more back up.

+ GOING GREEN

The Anna Art Alliance and the Schreyfoll Center for Environmental Education have brought to our shores an exhibition of photography, drawings and other visual media from 16 green-minded, conscious poetry-themed artists. Two internationally recognized artists, Chloë Wang Lee and Panya Dai, have been poking around the Schreyfoll Center's acres of forested and blighted in search of — second-order literary issues — Buddha. There are who maintain display a nuanced Eastern approach to environmental art, deriving its equanimity from the minimalist, technical style of traditional Zen Buddhist monastic painting. Underneath a cathedral of interpretive easels, Lee's great earth goddess, arranged from acorns, rocks and twigs, sketched out her between. Following this brand-art, spiritual sensibility, Dai's *Ask for Pleasure* translates a Tennessee ark story into a home, built from fallen branches-to-shoulder not the horizon, but the trees.

—OMG 21 Icons

Opening reception and panel discussion, Fri. Aug. 8, 5-8:30 p.m., *Anna Art Alliance*, 1710 West 4th St. 708-544-5445, annainstitute.org, schreyfollcenter.org

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[music photo]

► rock/pop



► POST POST

Don't let the friendly faces fool you, these Ryns. Master kids are shy and hat-headed. Their first studio recording, the breakthrough *Residents 32.3*, is a little mystery, a lot fiery, and somehow totally wide-eyed and bewitched at the execution. The heartache and desperation ("When'd I get so good at being?" repeated for emphasis) are so deeply wrapped in jingly guitar and driving key a you might dance the pain away. And then like "Sometimes I try to light a fire just to see how you'll react" — well, they're just psychotic. In a really charming way. Driven by Michelle Zauner's brooding, doom-laden vocals, *Residents* continue Post Post's aggressive skyward trajectory. Four songs of icy, catchy indie-pop.

—Patrick Page

See Aug. 7, 8 p.m., 82 with Post Post, *King Pin* (Punk), 2010 V. Press 36, 333-551-4513, kingpinrecords.com.

► FOL CHEN

The Residents had some good ideas, but I wouldn't call them "fun." Los Angeles band Fol Chen seems like the next evolutionary step, an art-pop project you can groove to. They're up with their faces and identities (There's at least one lady and one dude, and they wear Chuck's). The music is cleverly odd, but catchy, maybe even dancey.

Their lyrics stick the pretty to the squeaky. This is exactly what I thought we'd be hearing in 2009: trendy, classy, absurd, half-baked, over-produced pop for the burn-out/burn-up/4thousand/are-you-seeing-post-Loft online-war generation. I mean, last.

—Patrick Page

See Aug. 8, 8 p.m., 82 with *Resident's Victim* (Ryns, Johnny Brenda's), 2010 V. Resident Ave. 377 455 9646, johnnybrendas.com.

arts & entertainment

► folk/world

► SUSANA SACA

Before Susana Saca drew attention to her musical tradition from Peru, they were little acknowledged inside the country's listening beyond. Saca is most recent CD, *Saca Positiva* (J. J. J. J.), is a tribute collection of songs by late Peruvian musical icon and singer-songwriter Chuspa Grande. Saca's colleague from the early days, Peruvian musician, producer and producer, her voice makes you understand the song whether or not you speak Spanish.

—Mary Armstrong

See Aug. 8, 8 p.m., 82 with *Peru's Best* (Johnny Brenda's), 2010 V. Resident Ave. 377 455 9646, johnnybrendas.com.

► rock/pop

► HERE WE GO MAGIC

It would be oversteating it to say here we go Magic's new album *Here* "radical" or "epic" quality. But I'd put it on a road-music mix only under controlled circumstances. *Here* (Sire) is a Canadian indie of the period, a distant key baseline pop at best. Even when the album's driving through the track "Twice as fast" (a late Temple country song) and those driving guitars keep your pulse slow and steady.

—Patrick Page

See Aug. 8, 8 p.m., 82 with *Peru's Best* (Johnny Brenda's), 2010 V. Resident Ave. 377 455 9646, johnnybrendas.com.

► ONETRACK MIND

► TURNING VIOLET VOLT E.F.

"You Have Fuel on It"

The trick to making

chamber-pop work

happens on the pop

Phil Spector's turn

Wood Volt seems

to know this. Their

debut EP, *Turning Violet* (Cherry),

is a strong success of its

kind, a couple of tracks

are strong, lively

turning "Simple" they

call it "You Have Fuel

on It" is a strong

success of its kind, a

couple of tracks are

strong, lively turning

"Simple" they call it

"You Have Fuel on It"

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on It" is a strong



► art/dance/pop/rock

See Aug. 8, 8 p.m., 82 with *Peru's Best* (Johnny Brenda's), 2010 V. Resident Ave. 377 455 9646, johnnybrendas.com.

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[the week in a bite] [food & drink]

WHAT'S COOKING



Philadelphia Distilling Cocktail Dinner at Koo
Zee Doo Wed., Aug. 11, 6 and 8 p.m., \$100 (couple) > Surferdude Christian Gaid (Noble Kravtovich) and Phoebe Eason (Chuck's) have concocted five cocktails using Philadelphia Distilling spirits (Pean 1883), Bluecoat, Vodka Corral to match a five-course menu put together by Koo Zee Doo. Kite will include grilled quail pan pork and pomegranate-wrapped Panna toast stuffed with salt cod and potato. Reservations required. Koo Zee Doo, 674 N. Second St., 375-0031 @koo, koozoo.com.

Stephen Eiser-Garry Mobster BBQ Challenge Sat., Aug. 7, 4-7 p.m., jumping in to compete with donations > Former Philly Garry Mobster is throwing down the 'real' gourmet with his south-south cook-off. Competitors can enter amateur or pro divisions to compete in chicken, ribs and other's chosen ingredients; each category will award first through third place, plus honorable mentions. The award for best in show, however, can go to anyone—and with the lower come tickets to the 2010 World Series. Admission is free, but buying a pizza cut you a nightful donation to the South Old & Academic Program. Cheese Bank Park, 1 Cheese Bank Way, 225-963 3500, garymobsterchallenge.org.

Pumpkin Tasting Dinners Tue., Aug. 11, 6-10 p.m., \$40 > This is the inaugural installment of Pumpkin's tasting series, which will be held the second Wednesday of every month. This month, chef Ian Murphy is preparing a four-course prix-fixe with Hagen Murphy, beverage manager at White Dog, who will give advice to each dish. Courses will include cypress three ways with Baconnet Lemon Balm Agave Panna and pork braised on milk with Victory Helix. Call for reservations. Pumpkins, 2713 South St., 215-545-6646, pumpkinsphilly.com.

Big Man's Craft Beer: Bingo Night at Varga Bar Sun., Aug. 8, 8 p.m. > Varga is breaking up a huge night, where, each month, they'll feature the beers of a different craft brewery. This week they're showcasing Left Hand, so you can sip on Imperial Stout, Jockey's Pale Ale and Palestar Pale while you play. If you're fast to add down B-I-N-G-O, you'll get loaded up with veg from both the brewery and the bar. Varga Bar, 942 Spruce St., 215-627-0500, vargabar.com.

—Eric Henney

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NOTES

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